

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 126307 TOSEC 020151

72 (70)

ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 ISO-00 PRS-01 CCO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

SSO-00 /024 R

66610

DRAFTED BY: PA/M:PDENNIS:JC

APPROVED BY: PA/M:FWISNER

S/S-MR MOFFAT

DIST: PA, S/S, S/PRS

----- 126991

P 301926Z MAY 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 126307 TOSEC 020151

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (OMISSION E.O., TAGS & SUBJ)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT GODFREY SPERLING JR. ARTICLE, FRIDAY, MAY 30, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, HEADLINED "FORD MOVING TO CENTER STAGE: KISSINGER STEPS BACK A BIT ON FOREIGN POLICY."

2. NATO LEADERS ASSEMBLED HERE ARE SEEING, ACCORDING TO SOURCES CLOSE TO GERALD FORD, A PRESIDENT WHO IS BEGINNING TO PUT HIS OWN UNIQUE, "INSTINCTIVE" STAMP ON THE MAKING OF U.S. FOREIGN-POLICY DECISIONS.

3. THE PRESIDENT, THESE SOURCES ASSERT, NOW IS BEGINNING TO FOLLOW--AND THE MAYAGUEZ EPISODE IS CITED AS AN EXAMPLE OF

THIS SHIFT HIS "DEEP INSTINCTS" THAT LEAD HIM TO CONSULT
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 126307 TOSEC 020151

WITH A NUMBER OF HIS TOP ADMINISTRATION PEOPLE BEFORE

MAKING A DECISION.

4. BY RELYING AS MUCH AS HE HAS IN THE PAST ON ONE MAN'S ADVICE, THAT OF HENRY A. KISSINGER, THE PRESIDENT WAS

ACTING, ACCORDING TO THESE SOURCES, AGAINST THESE INSTINCTS FOR WIDE CONSULTATION, AND ALSO AGAINST THE WAY HE WAS MAKING DECISIONS ON DOMESTIC MATTERS ALL ACROSS THE BOARD.

5. NOW, IN A MANNER WHICH IS BEING DESCRIBED AS "QUITE PERCEPTIBLE," THE PRESIDENT IS SEEN AS WIDENING HIS BASE OF ADVICE ON FOREIGN POLICY, LEANING MORE HEAVILY ON HIS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, JAMES R. SCHLESINGER, AND ON OTHER MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL.

6. ALSO, THE PRESIDENT IS SAID TO BE RELYING MORE HEAVILY ON A NUMBER OF ADVISERS IN THE FIELD ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND GLOBAL ECONOMICS, NOTABLY HIS SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, FRED DENT, TOGETHER WITH SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, WILLIAM E. SIMON, CHIEF ECONOMIC ADVISER ALLAN GREENSPAN, FEDERAL RESERVE CHAIRMAN ARTHUR BURNS, WHITE HOUSE ADVISER WILLIAM SEIDMAN, AND COMMERCE SECRETARY ROGERS MORTON.

7. "THIS LEAVES HENRY KISSINGER STILL AS THE DOMINANT ADVISER IN SHAPING U.S. FOREIGN POLICY," THESE SOURCES SAY. "BUT," THEY ADD, "AS THE PRESIDENT NOW MOVES TO WIDEN HIS BASE OF CONSULTATION, KISSINGER BECOMES A LITTLE LESS DOMINANT."

8. THESE SOURCES CONTEND THAT THIS SHIFT IN PRESIDENTIAL DECISIONMAKING IS "NOT ANTI-KISSINGER" IN INTENT.

9. INSTEAD, THEY SAY, IT IS MORE A MATTER OF WHAT THOSE WHO HAVE KNOWN MR. FORD FOR YEARS FORESAW AS INEVITABLE: THAT, AT SOME POINT, HIS CAUTIOUS NATURE WOULD CAUSE HIM TO APPLY THE CHECKS THAT STEM FROM WIDE CONSULTATION TO THE MAKING OF FOREIGN-POLICY DECISIONS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 126307 TOSEC 020151

10. ONE SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL TRAVELING WITH THE PRESIDENT ON THIS TRIP TO THIS NATO SUMMIT DENIED THAT DR. KISSINGER'S ROLE HAS BEEN DIMINISHED. AND, ON THE SURFACE ONE CAN READILY GET THE IMPRESSION THAT DR. KISSINGER IS IN CONTROL OF THE SCENE HERE. BUT PRESIDENT FORD, ACCORDING TO HIS ASSOCIATES BOTH IN AND OUTSIDE HIS ADMINISTRATION, IS DEFINITELY MOVING TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT HE IS PERCEIVED AS THE ONE WHO IS PROVIDING THE

MAIN U.S. LEADERSHIP IN FOREIGN RELATIONS.

11. THUS, THIS PRESIDENTIAL MOVE TOWARD MORE VISIBILITY
AS THE CHIEF U.S. LEADER IN GLOBAL MATTERS--TOGETHER

WITH THE WIDENING OF HIS BASE OF CONSULTATION--CLEARLY
INCREASES MR. FORD'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE FOREIGN-POLICY
FIELD. AND DR. KISSINGER, STILL AN IMPRESSIVE FIGURE ON
THE STAGE, STEPS BACK JUST A LITTLE WHILE REMAINING
POWERFUL AND CLOSE TO THE PRESIDENT.

12. IS THIS SHIFT ONE THAT IS LIKELY TO LEAD TO HENRY
KISSINGER HAVING TO GIVE UP HIS ROLE AS PRESIDENTIAL
ASSISTANT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS, KEEPING ONLY
HIS SECRETARY OF STATE POSITION? THERE ARE CONTINUING
REPORTS THAT THIS MIGHT HAPPEN--AND DR. KISSINGER HAS
CRITICS AT HIGH ADMINISTRATION LEVELS WHO WOULD LIKE TO
SEE THIS COME ABOUT.

13. BUT THIS REPORTER, IN HIS CHECKING OF SOURCES THAT
WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO KNOW IF THIS WERE TO COME
ABOUT, FINDS NOTHING OF THIS KIND IN THE MAKING.

14. INSTEAD, THERE IS PERSUASIVE EVIDENCE THAT THE
PRESIDENT IS SIMPLY--BUT CALCULATEDLY--ASSERTING HIMSELF

MORE IN THE FIELD OF FOREIGN RELATIONS. AND THAT FOR
HENRY KISSINGER THERE IS SIMPLY NO OPTION BUT TO STEP
ASIDE A BIT. (END TEXT) INGERSOLL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TEXT, TOSEC 020151
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE126307
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PA/M:PDENNIS:JC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750190-0411
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975054/aaaaadei.tel
Line Count: 144
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 AUG 2003 by BalzMJ>; APPROVED <23 JAN 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS MATERIAL
TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (FORD, GERALD R), (SPERLING, GODFREY)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006